

McCormick Reaper

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Exhibit 1: McCormick Reaper

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Exhibit 1: Read about the McCormick reaper on page 7 of the Student Edition.



Balloon Frame

JOHN C. COWING HOUSE

THE JOHN C. COWING HOUSE EXEMPLIFIES BALLOON FRAME CONSTRUCTION, WHICH ORIGINATED IN CHICAGO IN THE EARLY 1830s AND CONTRIBUTED TO THE RAPID SETTLEMENT OF THE WEST. LITTLE SKILL, TIME, OR MONEY WAS NEEDED TO ERECT SUCH A STRUCTURE. BALLOON FRAMES DIFFER FROM TRADITIONAL TIMBER FRAMES IN THE SIZE OF THE MEMBERS, THE USE OF NAILS TO HOLD THE FRAME TOGETHER, AND THE SUPPORT OF THE UPPER FLOORS STUDS, PLACED ON 16-IN. CENTERS, RAN FROM THE SILL, TO THE PLATE, AND ROOF. AT THE SECOND FLOOR LEVEL, A BAND, OR RIBBON, WAS SET INTO THE NOTCHED STUDS AND NAILED. THIS RIBBON SUPPORTED THE FLOOR JOISTS WHICH WERE ALSO NAILED TO THE STUDS.

IN THE COWING HOUSE, HOWEVER, SOME TECHNIQUES OF THE TIMBER FRAME WERE RETAINED. THE SILLs WERE TIMBER-SIZE, THE JOISTS CONTINUED TO BE NOTCHED TO FIT OVER THE SILLs, THE SILL AND STUDS WERE HELD TOGETHER BY MORTISE AND TENON JOINTS. WINDOW AND DOOR FRAMES, SASHES AND DOORS, GLASS AND HARDWARE WERE SUPPLIED READY MADE IN THE HOUSE.

THE HOUSE WAS ORIGINALLY BUILT IN ABOUT 1855 IN PEOTONE TOWNSHIP FOR A FARMER, JOHN C. COWING. IN 1976, THE COWING HOUSE WAS GIVEN TO THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION BY PATRICK J. MURRY OF PEOTONE, ILLINOIS. IN SEPTEMBER 1976 A SMALL PORTION OF THE HOUSE WAS DISASSEMBLED AND LATER REASSEMBLED WITHIN THE MUSEUM OF AMERICAN HISTORY IN WASHINGTON, D.C. THE REASSEMBLY WAS COMPLETED IN MARCH 1977. TODAY, THE HOUSE APPEARS IN VARYING STATES OF COMPLETION, RATHER THAN AS IT WOULD HAVE LOOKED AT ANY ONE STAGE OF ITS CONSTRUCTION OR REMODELING.

THE DOCUMENTATION OF THE JOHN C. COWING HOUSE WAS UNDER-TAKEN BY THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION, WASHINGTON, D.C., IN COOPERATION WITH THE HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY (HABS), NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, DR. ROBERT J. KAPSCHI, CHIEF OF HABS/HAFER, AND KENNETH L. ANDERSON, PRINCIPAL ARCHITECT OF HABS. THE INITIAL DOCUMENTATION WAS COMPLETED BY CHARLES E. GREGERSEN, ARCHITECT, ALA, BEFORE THE HOUSE WAS DAMAGED IN APRIL 1983 BY BETHANIE C. GRASHOF, AN ARCHITECTURAL PRESERVATION CONSULTANT UNDER CONTRACT TO THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION.

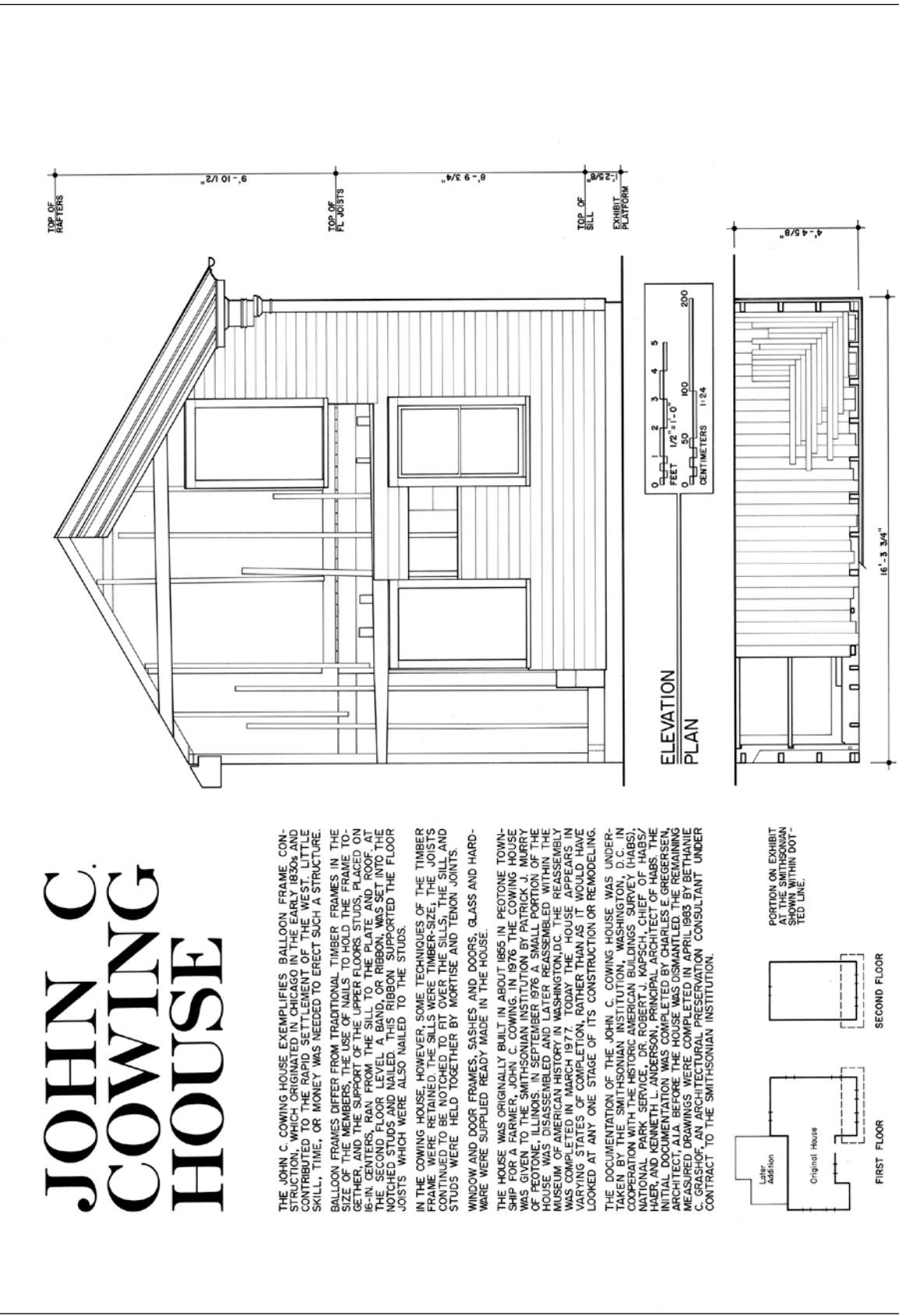


Exhibit 2: Read about the “balloon frame” on page 8 of the Student Edition.



Barbed Wire

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Exhibit 3: Barbed Wire

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Exhibit 3: Read about barbed wire on page 9 of the Student Edition.



Disassembly Line

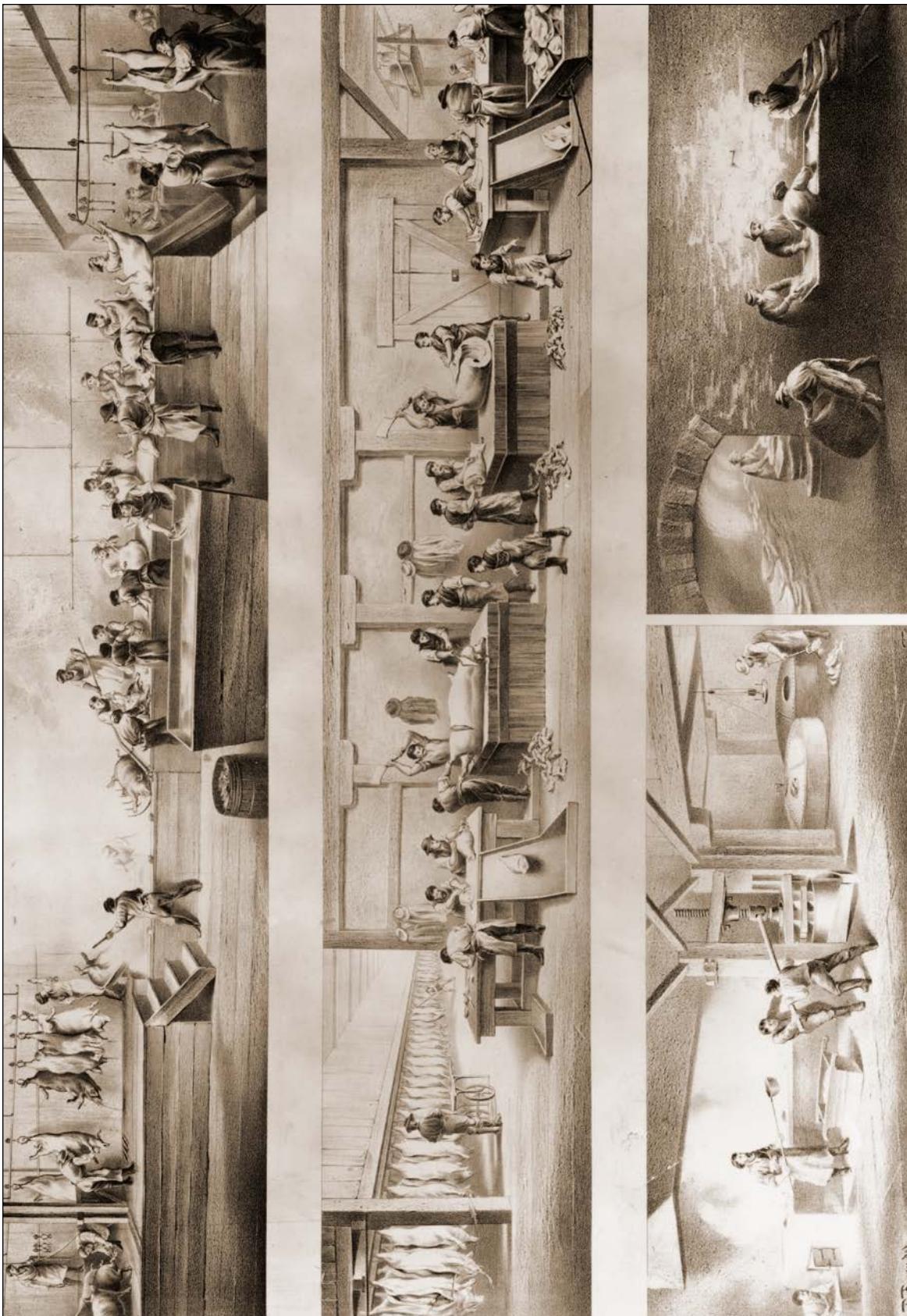


Exhibit 4: Read about the disassembly line on page 10 of the Student Edition.



Refrigerated Car

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Exhibit 5: Refrigerated Car

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Exhibit 5: Read about the refrigerated car on page 11 of the Student Edition.



Homestead Act of 1862

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Station 1: Homestead Act of 1862

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Station 1: Read about the Homestead Act of 1862 on page 18 of the Student Edition.



Internal Combustion Engine

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Station 3: Internal Combustion Engine

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Station 3: Read about the internal combustion engine on page 20 of the Student Edition.



Deforestation of the American West

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Station 4: Deforestation of the American West

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Station 4: Read about the deforestation of the American West on page 21 of the Student Edition.



Byproducts Industry



Station 5: Read about the byproducts industry on page 22 of the Student Edition.

